

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 SS-20 L-03 H-03

SPC-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01

USIA-15 PRS-01 EA-11 NEA-10 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06

SIL-01 OIC-04 DRC-01 /180 W
----- 000300

R 171748Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4895

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 LONDON 12091

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, ILO, UK

SUBJECT: ELECTION OF DIRECTOR GENERAL OF INTER-

NATIONAL LABOR OFFICE: A BRITISH VIEW

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REF: STATE 204762

1. SUMMARY: ALUN MORGAN, UNDER SECRETARY, OVERSEAS DEPARTMENT, DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT, INFORMED US THAT HIS GOVERNMENT CURRENTLY LEANS TOWARD THE VIEW THAT THE ELECTION OF A SUCCESSOR TO THE LATE WILFRED JENKS AS ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL SHOULD BE DELAYED UNTIL 1975, WHICH WOULD IN EFFECT ALLOW ABBAS AMA, AN EGYPTIAN, WHO IS CURRENTLY THE SENIOR DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL, TO SERVE AS A "CARETAKER" DIRECTOR GENERAL. THE BRITISH CURRENTLY FAVOR AS PERMANENT DIRECTOR GENERAL IN THE 1975 ELECTION (A) AGUILAR, VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UN AND (B) KOKU, OF NIGERIA. END SUMMARY

2. MORGAN SAID THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH A NUMBER OF ILO GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS EARLIER THIS WEEK WHEN HE PARTICIPATED IN SERVICES FOR WILFRED JENKS IN GENEVA. AGO (ITALY) INDICATED TO HIM THAT NONE OF THE PRESENT CANDIDATES WERE SATISFACTORY FROM ONE POINT OF VIEW OR ANOTHER AND THAT THE BEST PROCEDURE WOULD BE TO PLAY FOR TIME. MORGAN AGREED WITH AGO, UNDERLINING THE FACT THAT WHILE THE GOVERNING BODY HAS THE POWER TO CHOOSE SOMEONE IN NOVEMBER THIS WOULD PREVENT THE ILO MEMBERS OUTSIDE THE GOVERNING BODY FROM HAVING A VOICE IN THE FINAL OUTCOME.

3. MORGAN SAID THAT IF THE GOVERNING BODY DOES NOT APPOINT SOMEONE, ABBAS AMA WOULD REMAIN AS DIRECTOR GENERAL AD INTERIM OR "CARETAKER" SINCE HE IS THE SENIOR OF THE TWO DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERALS (THE OTHER BEING BLANCHARD OF FRANCE). ACCORDING TO MORGAN AMA IS A 20-YEAR ILO VETERAN AND "AN OLD HAND". (HE ADDS THAT WHEN JENKS WAS DEATHLY ILL IN ROME HE INDICATED THAT AMA WAS TO TAKE CHARGE).

4. MORGAN ALSO SOUNDED OUT PARODI (FRANCE) AS TO WHETHER THE FRENCH WOULD BACK BLANCHARD, BUT THAT PARODI UTTERED "NOT A WORD" ON THIS QUESTION. THE FRENCH, HE NOTES, ALSO OPPOSE TREVOEDJRE (DAHOMY) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHO IS PRESENTLY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL, EVEN THOUGH HE IS A FRANCOPHONE. THE BASIS OF THIS OPPOSITION, SAID MORGAN, WAS THAT TREVOEDJRE, BEING

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SPC-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01

USIA-15 PRS-01 EA-11 NEA-10 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06

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R 171748Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4896

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

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WITHOUT ANY STRONG POLITICAL BASE HIMSELF, WOULD BE
SUBJECT TO CONTINUOUS PRESSURE FROM ALL AFRICAN
MEMBERS. THE FRENCH CLEARLY ARE SUPPORTING AMA,
ACCORDING TO MORGAN. PARODI, HE NOTED, EMPHASIZED
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THAT AMA "LOVES THE ILO" AND BELIEVES THAT HE WILL
RECOGNIZE THAT HIS REAL RESPONSIBILITIES LIE WITH
THAT ORGANIZATION.

5. MORGAN ALSO RECALLED THAT JENKS WANTED A LATIN
AMERICAN TO BE HIS SUCCESSOR IN 1975, HAVING IN MIND
CALDERA, PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA, OR AGUILA. WHILE
JENKS FELT - AND MORGAN AGREES - THAT THESE MEN WERE
HIGH STARS TO REACH FOR SUCH A POSITION, MORGAN
BELIEVES THAT IF A LATIN AMERICAN OF HIGH CALIBER WAS
NOT FEASIBLE THE BRITISH WOULD PREFER KOKU OF
NIGERIA. MORGAN NOTED THAT KOKU HAS DONE VERY WELL
IN VARIOUS ILO TASKS HE HAS UNDERTAKEN; THAT HE IS
"SOLID, SENSITIVE, A HEAVYWEIGHT AND AN AFRICAN FROM
OUTSIDE THE ILO STRUCTURE" - ALL HIGHLY USEFUL
ATTRIBUTES UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCE. HE SAID GENERAL
GOWAN (NIGERIA) IS PUSHING KOKU'S CANDIDACY.

6. AS FOR MANNERING (CANADA), MORGAN THOUGHT THAT HIS
CANDIDACY MIGHT POSE A PROBLEM SINCE HE IS NOT A
REPRESENTATIVE OF A DEVELOPING COUNTRY. IN ANY EVENT
HE THOUGHT THAT MANNERING MIGHT STAND DOWN IF THERE
WAS A STRONG CANDIDATE FROM AN UNDER-DEVELOPED COUNTRY.

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